

Conversations on Jesuit Higher Education

Volume 7

Article 8

4-1-1995

In Deed: A Survey of Programs and Activities Related to Identity and Mission: Fairfield University

Editorial Board

Follow this and additional works at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/conversations>

Recommended Citation

Editorial Board (1995) "In Deed: A Survey of Programs and Activities Related to Identity and Mission: Fairfield University,"
Conversations on Jesuit Higher Education: Vol. 7, Article 8.
Available at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/conversations/vol7/iss1/8>

A Survey of Programs and Activities Related to Identity and Mission

Fairfield University Fairfield, Connecticut

CANISIUS ACADEMY

The Religious Studies Department at Fairfield has initiated a student group called The Canisius Academy. The Academy is a group of thirty students who attend a seven-event season drawn from campus offerings: public lectures, dance, theater, musical performances and gallery exhibits. The students are seated together for the program and gather after each event for a "salon": refreshments and discussion led by faculty, students, or the artists. Four to six faculty members, including at least two from the Religious Studies Department, join the Academy for each evening.

In launching The Canisius Academy, the Religious Studies Department hopes to make the

Published by e-Publications@Marquette
Canisius Academy Publications



Entertainer Harry Belafonte talks to student leaders at Fairfield University after addressing the annual Alumni Awards Dinner which raises funds for multicultural scholarships.

cussions of religion and culture. Without adding to the already large number of cultural programs offered at Fairfield, the Academy encourages students to make connections within a coherent group of those offerings. It brings faculty

to students in an atmosphere of shared discovery and informal exchange. Most important, the Academy nurtures the heart of university culture by providing a collegial setting for lively intellectual debate.

HOMELESSNESS: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES

Fairfield University offers an interdisciplinary seminar course on Homelessness through the Faith, Peace and Justice Minor. The course description reads as follows:

Students will use theory, field experiences, reflection and critical analysis to broaden and deepen their understanding of homelessness and homeless people. Causes and consequences of homelessness will be discussed from a variety of perspectives with particular emphasis on ethics, social justice, and physical, psychological and spiritual health. We will discuss the effects of homelessness on individuals, families and society and examine both short-range and long-range solutions.



Students in the School of Nursing at Fairfield collected 300 sweaters (in cooperation with Southern Connecticut Gas Company) to distribute to children at a community center in Bridgeport.

Students and faculty spend three hours each week in field experiences in a shelter or soup kitchen. A variety of teaching methods are used including discussion, videotapes, guest speakers, journals, immersion experiences, critical reflection papers and projects.

COURSE ON MANAGEMENT AND CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

School of Business assistant professor Michael Zigarelli is pursuing research that applies Catholic social teaching to the management of employees. In <http://epublications.marquette.edu/conversations/vol7/iss1/8>

a 1993 *Journal of Business Ethics* article, Dr. Zigarelli examined papal encyclicals to construct a general framework for human resource management from a Catholic perspective. Last summer, he extended this analysis to compare the American and Catholic models of worker rights. The project, soon to be published as a book chapter, was presented to the International Conference on Social Values at Oxford University.

"The central objective of this line of research," says Dr. Zigarelli, "is to advise Catholic managers that they have a duty

beyond maximizing profits and beyond meeting legal minimums. According to the Vatican, a manager also has a responsibility to fully respect worker dignity and rights and to be sensitive to a worker's familial obligations."

Dr. Zigarelli has also made this research an integral part of his human resource management course. "We spend a significant amount of class time discussing ethical treatment of employees," he reports. "At first, students seem to resist expressing their opinions because they're either too polite or too nervous to dis-

cuss 'right' and 'wrong.' But they soon learn that it's not only okay to talk about this stuff, it's also okay to make it a priority in business decision making." Dr. Zigarelli also notes that his classroom dialogue is intended to contribute to the School of Business's goal to cultivate socially-responsible business men and women.

19TH ANNOTATION RETREAT

For the past three years, Campus Ministry has offered the 19th Annotation retreat—



As a community service project, Fairfield students paint over graffiti and clean Main Street in Bridgeport.

the Retreat in Daily Life—to faculty, administrators and staff. Coordinated by Rev. Joseph Ryan, S.J., the retreat has attracted more participants each year.

At present there are ten retreatants making the retreat, which will run for the duration of the academic year. Each retreatant meets regularly with a director and each month all the retreatants and directors come together for prayer and reflection. The retreat has been a source of interest in the Christian Life Community. Coordinated by Sr. Anne Flood, S.C., the

C.L.C. meets weekly and is made up of faculty, administrators and staff. A C.L.C. for undergraduates is also being formed.

In addition to the 19th Annotation Retreat, Rev. Richard Stanley, S.J., offers a Silent Five-Day Ignatian Retreat three times a year. The retreat is held at the Jesuit Residence.

RESPICE FINEM: THE LAST LECTURE SERIES

What would professors have to say at their very last lecture? Would they give

advice? Would they reminisce? Would they talk primarily about their area of academic expertise? Or would they talk about ultimate things, about spirituality?

The Fairfield University “Last Lecture” series gives students (as well as faculty colleagues) a chance to get to know the lecturer better, and it gives the lecturer an opportunity to focus and articulate his or her own thoughts.

Professors who have lectured so far have been selected from a variety of disciplines, including history, nursing, religious studies and biology.

Loyola College in Maryland Baltimore, Maryland

THE CENTER FOR VALUES AND SERVICE

The act of community service at Loyola College is played out on many different stages: In the inner city, working with the homeless, the hungry, the impoverished, and the illiterate; In rural Mexico, building a school house or working at an orphanage; In Appalachia, 3